

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A molten metal pump comprising:
 - a motor;
 - a drive shaft comprising a motor shaft coupled to a rotor shaft, the rotor shaft having a first end and a second end wherein the first end has an outer surface and a keyway, the keyway comprising a groove formed in the outer surface;
 - a coupling having a first coupling member for coupling to the motor shaft and a second coupling member for connecting to the rotor shaft, the second coupling member having a projection that is removably received in the keyway;
 - a pump base having a pump chamber and a discharge; and
 - a rotor positioned at least partially in the pump chamber, the second end of the rotor shaft received in the connective portion.
2. (Original) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the rotor shaft is comprised of graphite.
3. (Original) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the coupling is comprised of steel.
4. (Original) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the pump is a gas-release pump and includes a gas-release conduit attached to the discharge.
5. (Original) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the pump is a gas-release pump and includes a metal-transfer conduit attached to the discharge and a gas-release conduit attached to the metal-transfer conduit.

6. (Previously Presented) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the pump is a transfer pump and includes a metal-transfer conduit attached to the discharge.
7. (Original) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the projection is substantially the same length as the keyway.
- 8 - 37. (Cancelled).
38. (Previously Presented) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the rotor includes a connective portion having flat, shallow threads, and the second end of the shaft has flat, shallow threads.
39. (New) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the keyway has a width of $3/4$ ".
40. (New) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the keyway has a depth of $3/8$ ".
41. (New) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the keyway is 4" long.
42. (New) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the keyway is vertical.
43. (New) The pump according to claim 1 wherein the rotor shaft has a diameter and the keyway has a depth equal to or less than $1/3$ of the diameter.